not learn the practice of his art from engravings, nor a sculptor from models in miniature, nay, in architecture, the actual examination, in Italy and Greece, of the beautiful structures in those countries, is deemed all but essential to the acquirement of a correct taste. But in the Gothic style, which has taken the place of every other for ecclesiastical purposes, we are content to learn at second-hand from mere graphic illustrations, or from a day's visit to a cathedral; though at our very doors are the best teachers—models with which the land abounds, and capable of adaptation to every object in ecclesiastical architecture. The importance of a complete examination of ancient models is more especially to be urged in Gothic architecture, in which the variations are so numerous, and comparatively so little understood, and in which the true value of precedent is so much a matter of speculation. Whilst our knowledge of actual examples is so meagre, we are restricted to the constant repetition of some few details, for which we know there is authority; but a familiarity with all existing details might produce a style in which originality would form one characteristic, or which would at least present a greater variety of forms than are at present met with.

Every lover of Gothic architecture should be a good pedestrian: thus his attention will not be confined to the towns which lie on the line of railway, but, knapsack on back and sketch book in hand, every mine will be open to his researches, and every store for him to glean thereat. An enthusiast—and what student is not—will discover a new pleasure, such as Xerxes never dreamt of, in every object he approaches. We have, ourselves, had such experience of the advantages, in mental and bodily vigour, to be derived from pedestrian visits to some of the counties of England, that we are led to urge every student, who hopes to stand in advance of his time, to engage in the study of his art in the like manner; and, as the pleasure and advantage of a pedestrian trip is in some degree dependent upon previous arrangements, it may perhaps not be thought foreign to our object if we give a few hints on such points: we may perhaps occupy space that could have been otherwise filled, but an old traveller will know that our suggestions are not entirely valueless.

Some slight review of the history of Gothic architecture, and the practical method of determining dates, will be desirable, even in the student of some years' standing; and the publications of the Cambridge Camden Society have so much the merit of conveying a great deal in few words, that they should not be neglected:—one called "A Few Hints on the Practical Study of Ecclesiastical Architecture," will be a desirable companion for reference. It contains a list of the emblems of saints, and a similar list is to be found along with other information in the *Archæological Journal*. These lists may be referred to in many objects of interest in stained glass and monumental brasses. From the same sources may be learnt the method of "rubbing" brasses, which does not involve so much time as materially to retard the more immediate objects of the journey, and often affords hints in ornament frequently available. A solid sketch book of convenient size, with the *et cæteras* of the delineating art, is not likely to be forgotten. A walking-stick may contain the five-foot rod, which, if dimensions are taken, can hardly be dispensed with. Other essentials are, good maps, a compass, a note book, a tape, a pocket case of instruments, and tracing paper for copying stained glass. If, too, we descend into the matter-of-fact details of coat and inexpressibles, we may there, too, add to the comfort of our *voyageur*. The first-mentioned garment should be made of waterproofed cloth, with seven or eight pockets, the principal ones being large enough to contain the "one shirt off" and the sketch book in case of rain, double-breasted, to button to the throat if required. The "pantaloons" should also be of waterproofed material, and not exactly of the best kerseymere. These habiliments will defend from Jupiter Pluvius; but he is not an experienced traveller who would venture abroad without other protection; and this we carry in the shape of a great coat, strapped to the back, in the place of a knapsack. The straps do not pass knapsack-wise, but through strong loops sewn to the back of the smaller coat: and, with good walking-boots and a change of stockings, our pedestrian is equipped, and, when he has got a mile from London, does not fail to thank us for these hints. The load on his back is no great burthen, and the plan of carrying his *impedimenta* will be found preferable to the knapsack, which is often very harassing to the shoulders. He will also find many essentials necessary which we have not space to enumerate, but which will readily suggest themselves, as, an apparatus for sewing on buttons and mending stockings; and some little pupilage in these difficult arts, under some of his fair acquaintances, would be highly desirable. The question of cap *versus* hat is one which should also be present to his mind.

And now, our traveller, being fully equipped, dons his cap, and, stick in hand and sketch book under arm, with a light heart and little other luggage, leaves London behind him; quitting the study of stucco and chimney-pots, with the prospect of health invigorated and knowledge greatly enlarged. The *argumentum ad hominem*, which deters many from undertaking frequent visits to objects of interest in England, is that of expence. The coffers of architectural students are always shallow ones, and, under the idea that this is universally a land of expensive inns and dissatisfied waiters, the practical study of the art is postponed to some expected distant visit to the continent, where *sous* go as far as pence, and breakfasts are thought to be had for asking. But we know that, with a little tact, by avoiding large hotels, and spending the greater number of nights in village inns rather than those of the towns, the thing may be contrived at as low a rate as we can live for in London. At most villages an excellent bed may be got for a shilling, and sometimes — our readers may smile—for sixpence; and if our pedestrian requires his tea from Twining's, he had better stay at home, unless he can carry a full purse.

The "Church Schemes" of the Camden Society will be found very useful; the method of using them may be learned from the pamphlet before mentioned, and, if our traveller is a writer of short-hand, he may note down every particular of each church in as little time as it will take him to walk over it; and he will be led to the discovery of points which might otherwise have escaped him. How far photography, and other aids to art may be called into his service, we must postpone the consideration of to some future period.

We repeat—in conclusion—Gothic architecture is not to be learnt from books and illustrations, but from examples themselves; and from the rising generation of architects is expected a style of art consistent with the true principles of the architecture of the middle ages, and at the same time with the requirements and characteristics of the English people and the present age. E. H.

Museum of Economic Geology. — It having been found that the present premises of this institution are far too small for the rapidly increasing collection of specimens illustrative of the application of geology to the arts and manufactures, the Government have determined on appropriating a large space between Piccadilly and Jermyn-street, near St. James's Church, for a commodious building sufficient for the accommodation necessary for the Museum, the Mining-Record Office, and the purposes of the geological survey of Great Britain. The *Athenæum* states that the architect to the office of Woods and Works, Mr. Pennethorne, has furnished plans, by which a frontage in both the above-named streets, of seventy feet, is ensured, and a depth of one hundred and fifty feet; which will be occupied by galleries for the exhibition of geological and mineralogical specimens, models of machinery, and illustrative productions of the arts and manufactures.

City Appointment of Assistant Surveyor.—The Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London having resolved to appoint an assistant surveyor, will meet, for that purpose, at the Guildhall, on Tuesday, the 17th instant. Gentlemen desirous of becoming candidates for the appointment must be possessed of adequate knowledge as surveyor and engineer, must give up the whole of their time to the duties of the office, and will not be allowed to carry on any private business.

VENTILATION.

We hear many complaints against Dr. Reid's system of ventilation as carried out in the temporary Houses of Parliament, but nothing better is promulged, nor do we hear of any endeavours being made to improve it. The proper ventilation of buildings does not receive that share of attention which its importance demands. Impure air still continues to kill its thousands quietly and in secret, and because it is in secret we look on passively and make no endeavour to stop the progress of the insidious destroyer. In well-built modern houses, where there are few crevices by which air can get access, systematic ventilation is absolutely necessary. Evidence of the strongest kind proves not merely the fatal effects of breathing air grossly vitiated, but that the absence of a full supply of pure air induces consumption, or renders the constitution less able to resist any disease by which it may be attacked.

The desideratum is, to introduce fresh air in sufficient quantities in such a manner as not to produce perceptible currents.

The Health of Towns' Commissioners say, in their second report:—

"Notwithstanding the apparent difficulties with which the ventilation of private dwellings is surrounded, a minute examination of the circumstances of the case has assured us that no field of improvement holds out a more promising result than that which may be anticipated in future from the more successful ventilation even of the humblest dwellings. The progress of science has explained its nature and importance. Sanatory measures for draining and cleansing will effect at least one-half the remedy by removing those impurities that have hitherto so largely polluted the atmosphere in towns, more especially in the habitations of the poor. Less air is requisite for ventilation in proportion to its purity, and consequently, the risk of offence from currents must be diminished where adequate ventilation is provided.

These considerations give us great confidence, in the expectation that ventilation will be much improved in proportion as its nature and importance is better known; more especially when plans for warming and ventilation shall be minutely studied, and incorporated in original designs, instead of being merely applied, as is too often the case at present, to buildings already constructed or designed without reference to this important object. This is the great and paramount object that should be pressed upon the attention of architects and builders. If structural arrangements are provided in public buildings and private dwellings, ventilation will then attain that facility and economy of execution, without which its general introduction cannot be anticipated to the extent that its importance requires. But exclusively of such systematic improvements as may justly be anticipated in new buildings, where this subject is fully considered, we have reason to look forward to additional improvement in this department. The very simple fact, that vitiated air always rises, under ordinary circumstances, shews that if two apertures be provided in every apartment, one below, and another above, and valves be arranged so that they may be adjusted with facility and accuracy to the circumstances of the moment, the natural laws that regulate the movement of vitiated air will induce a perpetual change, and prevent that extreme contamination which is so often observed. Extended systematic ventilation, with all its peculiarities and powers of adaptation, can only be obtained and is only required in public buildings or other large establishments; but it cannot be too strongly pointed out that many just objections to ventilation, as it is at present effected, arise from the fact that the feet principally are subjected to a cold current, in ordinary apartments, while the head may be in a hot stagnant atmosphere loaded with vitiated air, and saturated with moisture, produced by the breath, by combustion from lamps and candles, and from other sources. A superior aperture, and the most moderate attention to the point selected for its introduction, will secure the admission of fresh air without the current being perceptible to the human frame, and prevent it from attaining that condition where, by long continuance in a heated atmosphere, slight movements of air become offensive."

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